

Claims

Method for controlling the use of power in an electronic label (1) comprising a power supply (5), receiver means (15), transmitter means (17, 29), switching means (31) for said transmitting means (17, 29), charge pump means (23) for producing a current at a voltage which is greater than the voltage of said power supply (5), control means (3) for selectively connecting said charge pump means to a transmitter capacitor (27), whereby said transmitter capacitor (27) is connectable to said transmitter means (17, 29) in order to supply said transmitter means (17, 29) with power at a voltage which is greater than the voltage of said power supply (5) characterised by the step of supplying said transmitter capacitor (27) with power from said charge pump (23) after a signal intended for said label (1) has been received by said receiver means (15).

2. Method according to claim 1 characterised by the step of said transmitter capacitor (27) being supplied with power from said charge pump (23) for a predetermined period of time or until a final message in a communication has been transmitted by said transmitting means (17, 29).

3. Method according to claims 1 or 2 characterised by the step of said switching means (31) being supplied with power from said charge pump (23) at a voltage which is greater than the voltage of said power supply (5).

Electronic label (1) comprising a power supply (5), receiver means (15), transmitter means (17, 29), switching means (31) for said transmitting means (17, 29), charge pump means (23) for producing a current at a voltage which is greater than the voltage of said power supply (5), control means (3) for selectively connecting said charge pump means to a transmitter capacitor (27), whereby said transmitter capacitor (27) is connectable to said transmitter means (17, 29) in order to supply said transmitter means (17, 29) with power at a voltage which is greater

than the voltage of said power supply (5) characterised in that said control means (3) comprises control logic means (33) which determine if a received signal requires a reply to be transmitted and which connect said charge pump means (23) to said transmitter capacitor (27) if a reply is required.

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5. Electronic label in accordance with claim 4 characterised in that said switching means (31) is connectable to said charge pump (23) in order to be supplied with a voltage which is greater than the voltage of said power supply (5).

10 6. Electronic label in accordance with claim 4 or 5 characterised in that said charge
pump (23) comprises an additional power supply (41).

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